



## PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION REPORT

NATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION CENTER

## SUBMARINE ASSEMBLY AND LAUNCHING EQUIPMENT AT HU-LU-TAO NAVAL BASE, SHIPYARD, AND PORT FACILITY, CHINA

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- e. Longitudinal support beams the beams which join the trucks to form the launch carriage assembly (Figures 3 and 5).
- f. Launch carriage assembly a group of trucks, probably hydraulic, which are joined by the longitudinal support beams. It is used to lift and move the submarine while it is on the cradle (Figures 3 and 6). The length of the assembly will be approximately 92 percent of the submarine's length.
- g. Launch basin a two-level graving dock used to launch ships (Figure 2).
- h. <u>Launch platform</u> a floating platform which supports the vessels for launching (Figure 2).

## Launch Sequence

6. The launch carriage assembly is moved into place under the set of launch cradles and jacked up, thereby lifting the vessel (Figure 7). The vessel is then moved from the construction hall to the transverser, moved laterally on the transverser until the vessel carriage assembly is lined up with the rails leading to the launch platform, and moved onto the launch platform (Figure 8). The launch basin is flooded to the level where the launch platform and vessel will float from the shallow ledge of the launch basin to the deep basin. The water is then pumped from the basin, allowing the launch platform and vessel to rest on the bottom. Finally, the basin and the launch platform are flooded, allowing the submarine to float free from the cradles. The launch platform is later refloated and returned to the shallow ledge.

(Continued p. 9)

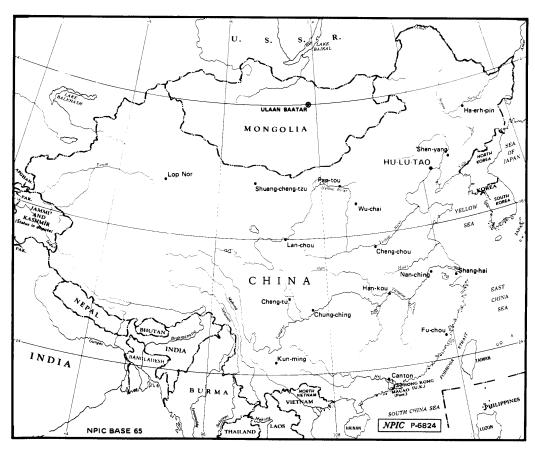
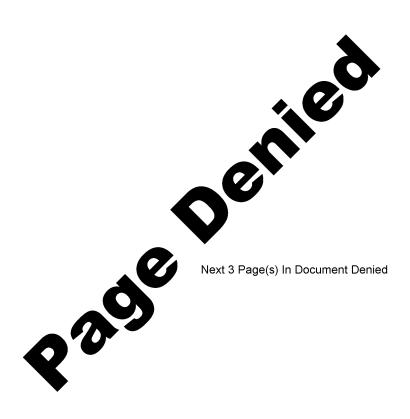


FIGURE 1. LOCATION OF HU-LU-TAO NAVAL BASE, SHIPYARD, AND PORT FACILITY, CHINA



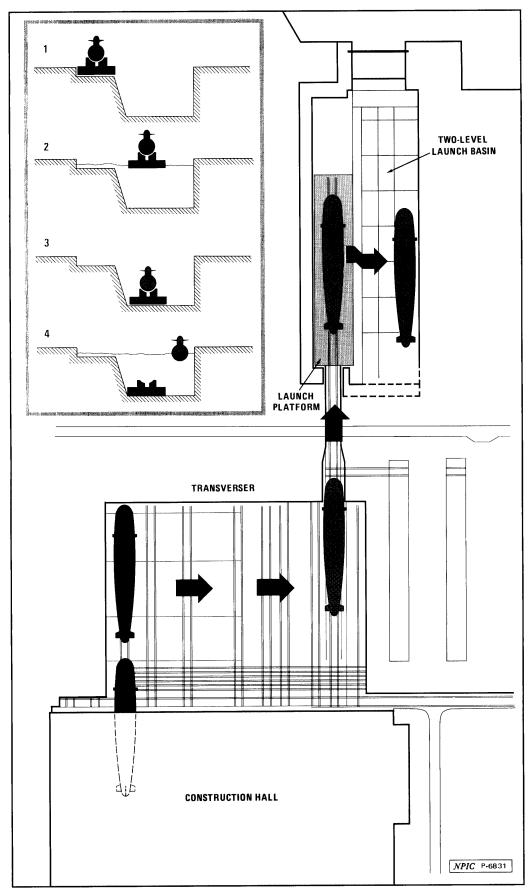


FIGURE 8. LAUNCHING PROCEDURE

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re used to fabricate of the outer hull t	se function or use of the jigs is unknown. However, it is suspected that they e and shape large pieces of outer hull plate or to join approximately three-quarters to a pressure hull section, or both of the preceding. They could also aid in the nment of subassemblies.	
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